26th April 1962]

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Have the Government taken steps to see that hawkers do not sell these things exhibiting posters and other things in the streets?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is exactly what I said before. They have to obtain licences and if thev do not obtain the necessary licence, they are liable to prosecution. If particular instances are brought to the notice of the Government, Government will take steps to prosecute them.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, is it not a fact that the cases that were reported in the daily press, were cases of suicide intentionally committed by certain persons taking these poisons and not because they are sold by those persons? Can anybody prevent men committing suicide?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, I have not investigated these cases.

Power-looms

* 19 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to start training centres for weavers to work on power-looms; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) & (b) There is no proposal to start training centres for power-loom weaving.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : There were some perss reports in which it was stated that the Government have decided to start training centres for weavers to work on power-looms. May I know whether it is not correct?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : So far as the policy with regard to the power-looms is concerned, no decision has been taken. If the decision is taken to introduce power-looms, then the question of having training centres would arise. As it is, there is no proposal to start training centres.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : It is not a fact that the Government have decided to start power-looms in place of handiooms in some of the co-operative societies and htat they have called for applications from the co-operative societies in this regard?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes, that is true. In our Plan we made provision for introduction of 2,500 power-looms, but since then the handloom interest has represented to the Government of India, and the Government of India have decided not to encourage power-looms. That is the position. So far as this State is concerned, the matter is still under examination by the Government.